1955

JUNE

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

IN THIS ISSUE

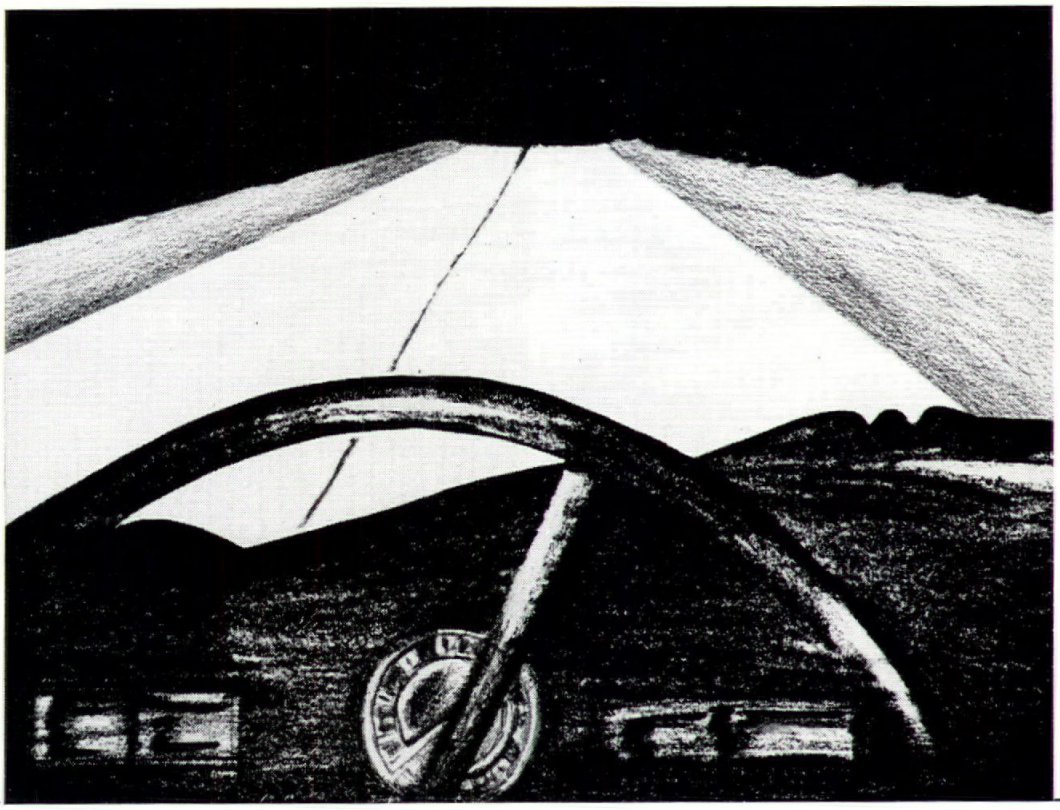
- A New Concept Of Retained Percentages
- TSA Delegation To Minneapolis
- U. S. Corps of Engineers In Galveston District

TEXAS ARCHITECT
Box 1733
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
Form 3547 Requested

MISS POLLY SHACKELTON
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1735 NEW YORK AVE. N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Section 34.66 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
PERMIT No. 2037

Robert Carr Chapel at Texas Christian University has been selected by the Fort Worth Chapter, AIA, as representative of recent work in the Chapter area. Architect: Joseph R. Pelich, Fort Worth.



NIGHT DRIVING IS SAFER ON LIGHT COLORED CONCRETE

Better visibility on light-colored concrete highways means you can see danger ahead sooner, have more time to slow down or stop. Did you ever pass from light-colored concrete to dark pavement and wondered what happened to your lights? *You can't be safe if you can't see!*

Good visibility is only one reason concrete roads are safer. You can *stop quicker* too because the gritty, skid-resistant surface grips tires tighter.

For *safety's sake,* urge public officials to pave all main roads with concrete. *Many concrete highways are reinforced with TEXAS HI-BOND BARS.*

TEXAS STEEL CO.

3901 HEMPHILL STREET FORT WORTH PHONE WE-4611

THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

VOLUME 6 JUNE, 1955 NUMBER 2

INSIDE THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

TSA Delegates at Minneapolis 2
A New Concept of Retained Percentages 3
Current Program in Galveston District 4
San Antonio Design Winners Named 8
Shefelman in Japan 10

Published monthly by the Texas Society of Architects in Houston. Subscription price, 50c per year, in advance. Copyrighted 1951 by the T.S.A., and title registration applied for with the U. S. Patent Office.

Editorial contributions, correspondence, and advertising invited by the Editor. Due to the nature of the publication, editorial contributions cannot be purchased. Publisher gives permission for reproduction of all or part of editorial material herein, and requests publication credit be given THE TEXAS ARCHITECT, and author of material when indicated. Publications which normally pay for editorial material are requested to give consideration to the author of reproduced by-lined feature material.

Appearance of names and pictures of products and services in either editorial copy or advertising does not constitute an endorsement of same by either the Texas Society of Architects or the American Institute of Architects.

THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

Official Publication of

THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Texas Regional District Organization of

The American Institute of Architects

David C. Baer, AIA-TSA ..... Editor
1200 Bissonnet, Houston

John G. Flowers, Jr. ..... Managing Editor
Perry-Brooks Building, Austin

George Kirksey & Associates
Editorial Counselors
2244 W. Holcombe, Houston

PUBLICATION BOARD

David C. Baer, Chairman, TSA-AIA ..... Houston
Lee R. Buttrill, TSA-AIA ..... Beaumont
Harold E. Calhoun, TSA-AIA ..... Houston
Grayson Gill, TSA-AIA ..... Dallas
Albert S. Golemon, TSA-AIA ..... Houston
David D. Red, TSA-AIA ..... Houston
Edward L. Wilson, TSA-AIA ..... Fort Worth

TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
OFFICERS

Grayson Gill ..... President
1913 San Jacinto, Dallas
R. Max Brooks ..... Vice-President
205 E. 8th Street, Austin
Fred J. MacKie ..... Second Vice-President
2713 Ferndale, Houston
Louis F. Southerland ..... Secretary-Treasurer
602 West Avenue, Austin
John G. Flowers, Jr. ..... Executive Director
327 Perry-Brooks Building, Austin

DIRECTORS

O. L. Puckett ..... Big Spring
Panhandle Chapter, A.I.A.
Winfred O. Gustafson ..... Austin
Central Texas Chapter, A.I.A.
Terrell R. Harper ..... Dallas
Dallas Chapter, A.I.A.
Robert P. Woltz, Jr. ..... Fort Worth
Fort Worth Chapter, A.I.A.
Charles Huie, Jr. ..... San Antonio
San Antonio Chapter, A.I.A.
Otis F. Johnson ..... Corpus Christi
Coastal Bend Chapter, A.I.A.
Harold E. Calhoun ..... Houston
Houston Chapter, A.I.A.
Warren C. Suter ..... Mission
Lower Rio Grande Chapter, A.I.A.
William G. Wuehrmann ..... El Paso
El Paso Chapter, A.I.A.
Ernest Langford ..... Bryan
Brazos Chapter, A.I.A.
David S. Castle ..... Abilene
West Texas Chapter, A.I.A.
R. C. Heartfield ..... Beaumont
Southeast Texas Chapter, A.I.A.
Albert S. Golemon ..... Houston
A.I.A. Director

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 21-25—87th annual convention, AIA, Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis, Minn.

November 2-4—16th annual convention, TSA, Shamrock Hotel, Houston.

This Month

The important problem of retained percentages is examined in the lead editorial.

TSA delegation heads for Minneapolis and 87th annual AIA convention.

Colonel Willard P. McCrone discusses the Corps of Engineers program in Galveston District in an important and informative editorial.

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Briggs Mfg. Co. ..... 6 and 7
James B. Clow & Sons 9
Dezendorf 11
Finger Contract 12
R. H. Folmar 9
LCN Closers 11
Michel & Pfeffer ..... Cover IV
Monarch Tile 2
Southern Inspection Service 12
Texas Bitulithic 4
Texas Steel Co. ..... Cover II
Texeramics, Inc. 12
Trinity White ..... Cover III

The President's Letter

By
Grayson Gill
TSA-AIA
President,
Texas Society
of Architects

Recent hearings before the state affairs committee of the House of Representatives on the proposed architectural registration law revision forcefully bring to the attention of the architects of Texas the necessity for continued attention to constructive participation in architectural education, with special emphasis upon the following objectives of the Texas Society of Architects as defined in the by-laws:

A. ". . . To make the profession of ever-increasing service to the citizenship of the state by advocating means to protect and better the public health, safety, and welfare as related to planning and to the design and construction of buildings.

B. Maintenance of high professional standards.

C. Advancement of architectural education.

(1) By co-operation with the several architectural schools.

(2) By encouragement of all architectural students, both in and out of schools."

To maintain high professional standards, the best available academic training offered by our schools of architecture should be followed by a minimum period of internship in actual office experience under the direction of a registered architect. Experience has indicated that this period should be not less than three years.

Almost without exception, practicing architects are indebted to some architect for their post-graduate training of this kind, and are obligated to make available to the graduates of architectural schools the same opportunity for training which they themselves have received.

The professional architect makes a substantial contribution to the maintenance of high professional standards by the post-graduate training he gives to the architectural graduate.

TSA Delegates Attend 87th Meeting Of AIA At Minneapolis June 20-24

About 40-50 TSA members will be delegates to the 87th annual convention of the American Institute of Architects at Minneapolis June 20-24. The theme of the annual meeting, to be held at the Hotel Radisson, is "Designing for the Community."

Heading the TSA delegation will be Albert S. Golemon of Houston, regional AIA director, and Grayson Gill of Dallas, TSA president. David C. Baer of Houston will preside at Minneapolis sessions of the AIA Committee on Office Practice, and other TSA members are serving on various key committees. Mr. Baer's group will hold an important seminar in cost estimating and modular measurement.

Milton Foy Martin of Houston will receive a national AIA honor award for his design of the Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. This is the only hospital selected for an honor award in the 1955 AIA competitions.

Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, immediate past AIA regional director, is a candidate for the post of secretary of the AIA at Minneapolis.

City planning and rebuilding will be in the spotlight at the Minneapolis meeting, expected to attract about 1600 architects from over the U.S. Minneapolis is the first city to submit an urban renewal plan approved by the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

The AIA Gold Medal will be awarded to Willem M. Dudok, noted Dutch city planner, during the Minneapolis meeting.

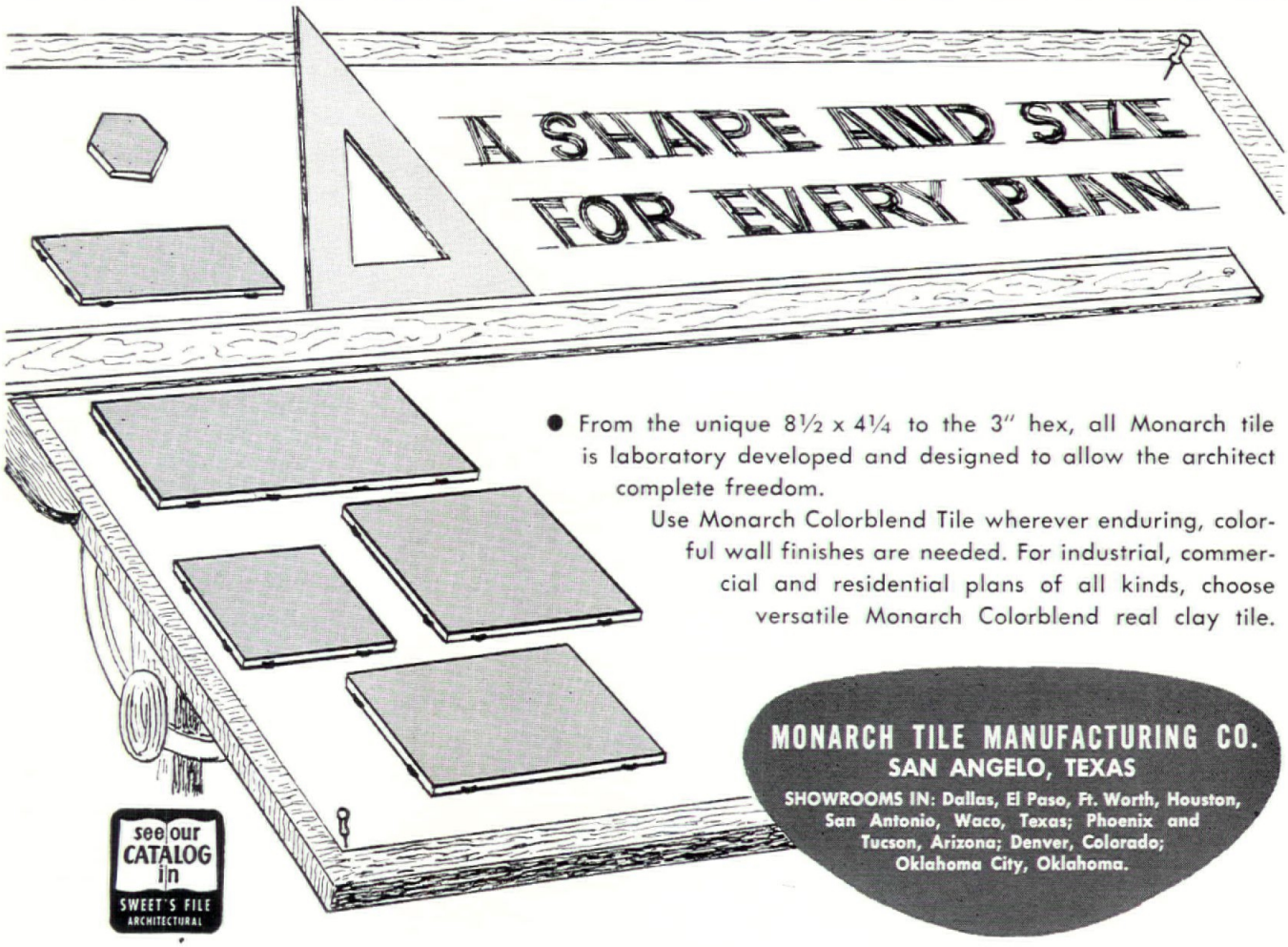
Portland Cement Association Names Thomas D. Shiels

The Portland Cement Association has appointed Thomas D. Shiels district engineer with headquarters at 114 East Eighth Street, Austin. He succeeds James D. Piper, promoted to the post of vice president for promotion.

Mr. Shiels will be responsible for PCA activities throughout Texas. A veteran of more than 30 years with the Association, Mr. Shiels is a civil engineering graduate of VMI who joined PCA in 1925 as a field engineer.

CANDIDATE

Edward L. Wilson, TSA-AIA of Fort Worth, immediate past regional director of the AIA and a former president of TSA, will be a candidate for national secretary of the AIA at the 87th annual convention in Minneapolis June 20-24. Mr. Wilson is president of the Texas Architectural Foundation.



● From the unique 8½ x 4¼ to the 3" hex, all Monarch tile is laboratory developed and designed to allow the architect complete freedom.

Use Monarch Colorblend Tile wherever enduring, colorful wall finishes are needed. For industrial, commercial and residential plans of all kinds, choose versatile Monarch Colorblend real clay tile.

MONARCH TILE MANUFACTURING CO.
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS
SHOWROOMS IN: Dallas, El Paso, Ft. Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Waco, Texas; Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Denver, Colorado; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Retained Percentages

As an example of sound cooperative action between the construction industry and the architectural profession which benefits the general public, representatives of the American Institute of Architects have been conferring with the Producers' Council and other groups on the problem of retained percentages.

Over the years, there has been a general practice of retaining a percentage of the payments due contractors for completed work, until final acceptance of the entire project. The amount retained varies over the country. In some areas, there is retention of a flat 15%. Elsewhere, the amount retained is 10%. In some cases, the amount is reduced as the job nears completion.

The result of the joint meetings is a feeling that although the basic principles of retained percentages is sound, the present percentage of retention is generally too large and constitutes contractor's money frozen. This in turn means money due subcontractors and material men is likewise frozen and sometimes for long periods of time.

The Second Conference on the Problems of Retained Percentages has made the following basic recommendations:

(1) That the Owner-Contractor Agreement forms be changed to provide that ten percent of payments to contractors be retained until the work is 75% complete. Thereafter, the retained amount should total 5% of the contract price.

(2) That a change in AIA Form 702 (Application for Payment) be made to add columns for percentage of retained amounts due on each item of work each pay period, and generally make known to the architect in much more detail regarding the contractor's direct costs, overhead, and profit.

As Editor of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, David C. Baer, TSA-AIA, Chairman of the National Office Practice Committee, AIA makes the following general observations and invites comment from our readers on this important matter:

(1) The basic intent of the recommendations of the Conference seems well grounded and merits the attention of the construction industry and the efforts necessary to solve this problem. Obviously there is inequity in the present retainage procedures. This is particularly true of a sub-contractor who may complete his work early on a job and then has to wait many months to collect the ten or more percent the contractor withholds until the job is completed and accepted. The owner should save some money by a change in this policy if a workable procedure can be evolved that is acceptable to all parties.

(2) The statement of policy on retention recommended by the conference should be further clarified to state without chance of misinterpretation that retention shall be 10% until job is 75% completed after which only 5% of the contract sum shall be withheld until final payment. It should also be stated that payments to sub-contractors by the General Contractor and equipment and material suppliers should be on this same basis.

(3) It is believed the recommendations fail to solve the problem of assuring the architect and all interested parties that sub-contractors and material men will be and are being paid as their money becomes due. Some times this is very important.

(4) No real purpose is served in the added responsibility for job accounting placed on the architect due to revising the AIA standard Owner-Contractor forms and Application for Payment forms. As proposed these changes would add a very considerable amount of checking and detailed figure work for the architect.

(5) As stated the recommendations would invade the business privacy of the General Contractors to so great an extent that their support of the program will be hard to secure.

As chairman of the Office Practice Committee, AIA, Mr. Baer states that this matter will be discussed by the committee at a meeting in Minneapolis in June. Changes required in documents of the Institute are the responsibility of this committee and therefore, the committee is especially interested in the problems raised by these recommendations.

TSA at Minneapolis

TSA will send a sizable contingent of between 40 and 50 delegates to the 87th annual convention of the America Institute of Architects at Minneapolis from June 20-24.

TSA members will play a prominent role in the annual meeting of the AIA, which now numbers more than 10,000 members and an overwhelming percentage of the nation's registered architects. The TSA delegation will be headed by Albert S. Golemon of Houston, regional director; and Grayson Gill of Dallas, TSA president. Both of these men and many other well-known TSA members over the state are serving on important AIA committees which determine so many critical matters regarding the architectural profession in general.

David C. Baer, TSA-AIA of Houston, will be in Minneapolis as chairman of the AIA Office Practice Committee, one of the key groups within the national organization and one which has been particularly active. Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, a widely-known practitioner who has held many high posts within TSA and is immediate past AIA regional director, will be a candidate for the office of national secretary. Milton Foy Martin of Houston is to receive an AIA honor award for his design of the Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, the only hospital so honored this year.

Current Program In Galveston District Outlined By District Engineer, C.E., U.S.A.

Colonel Willard P. McCrone,
District Engineer,
Galveston District,
Corps of Engineers,
U. S. Army

Colonel Willard P. McCrone, district engineer for the Galveston District, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, spoke before the San Antonio Chapter, TSA recently on the current military construction program of the Corps of Engineers, particularly the Galveston District, which is one of the five districts of the Southwestern Division, Corps of Engineers.

Following is an abstract of the remarks of Colonel McCrone, a 41-year-old native of Cincinnati and graduate of the University of Cincinnati, University of California, and the Armed Forces Staff College who recently served as project officer for NIKE guided-missile construction. Colonel McCrone, commissioned a second lieutenant in the Regular Army in 1937, has served in Hawaii, France, Corsica, and Italy, before and during World War II, in addition to many important assignments in the U.S.

It is a distinct pleasure for me to be with you today to give you what information I can concerning the military construction program being carried on by the Corps of Engineers, particularly the Galveston District.

A long range view, because of military demands and Congressional approval requirements that force revisions, is not possible. Even this outline of the scope and funds involved is subject to change.

Area of Responsibility — SWD

Before proceeding further, I would like to outline briefly the areas of responsibility for the military construction activities of the five districts of the Southwestern Division of the Corps of Engineers. The Little Rock District has jurisdiction over the state of Arkansas, and the northern half of the state of Louisiana. The Tulsa District supervises military construction work in the state of Oklahoma, the Panhandle of Texas, and the northern portion of Texas above Dallas. The Albuquerque District supervises construction in the state of New Mexico, and the northwestern portion of Texas, while the Fort Worth District is responsible for military construction in the central portion of Texas. Our own Galveston District, with main offices in Galveston, supervises work in the southern portions of Texas and Louisiana.

Galveston District Military Program

The total current military construction program being conducted under supervision of the Galveston District (for the U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force) amounts to some 59 million dollars. (This is exclusive of future programs wihch are also under design.) Of this amount, we have 49 million dollars worth already under contract, while 10 million dollars worth remains to be placed under contract before June 30 of this year.

Preliminary design of items in the FY 56 program amounting to 24 million dollars, has been completed during the current fiscal year. It is contemplated that completion of FY 56 design will be authorized in the near future, as well as project planning and preliminary design for the FY 57 program. The final program authorized by Congress for construction will most likely be less than the design program.

ASPHALT PAVING is a FLEXIBLE paving
...does not break like RIGID paving

Asphalt, the flexible paving, is always in contact with the foundation.

Rigid pavement becomes a beam when subgrade settles. Heavy loads break this beam. Continued application can cause pumping or additional breaking at some point several feet away. Always specify ASPHALT PAVING . . . the flexible paving that costs less and lasts longer.

Standard size for Texas Bitulithic 4" paving

Galveston District Medical Facilities

An item which I believe will be of interest to you is the current program for medical facilities being accomplished by the Galveston District for the Air Force.

Since this program first began in FY 52, the Galveston District has supervised construction of dental clinics, varying in size from 8 to 20 chairs, at Laughlin, Laredo, Lackland, Kelly, Harlingen and Foster Air Force Bases in Texas, and the Lake Charles AFB in Louisiana.

In addition to this, we have constructed 50/100-bed hospitals at Laughlin, Laredo and Foster Air Force Bases; a 75/150-bed hospital at the Harlingen AFB; and a 75/150-bed hospital is being designed in the FY 56 program for Ellington AFB, near Houston.

Our largest hospital project now under construction is located at the Lackland Air Force Base, where a 500/1000-bed, multi-story, permanent type hospital is being built. The structure includes nine complete stories, plus basement and two more stories in the elevator tower.

The structure will be primarily concrete frame, with cast in place concrete panel fill-ins, and will have 320,000 square feet of space. The exterior will be given a dash coat of Portland cement and fine sand.

Procuring A-E Services

Construction actually began on October 5, 1954, and completion of the project is scheduled for late September, 1956.

Another project in this area which is of interest to you, is the School of Aviation Medicine being planned for construction at the Brooks Air Force Base, near here.

The facilities are being designed to meet the triple mission of the school; namely, (1) the teaching of aviation medicine, (2) research in aviation medicine, and (3) the clinical practice of aviation medicine. We will be required to provide space, utilities, etc., for test chambers, animal experimentation, and numerous other items. As an example, the lecture rooms will be equipped so that by means of color TV and intercom, as many as 500 students will be able to observe and ask questions, even while delicate surgery is being performed.

I would like to briefly give you the Corps of Engineer procedures and policies for procuring A-E services for design of military construction projects.

In the months following the outbreak of the Korean War, several major changes were made in the procedures and policies for procuring A-E services for the design of Army and Air Force subjects, to be constructed under the supervision of the Corps of Engineers.

In December 1950, the President of the United States declared that a period of National Emergency existed, and to many people a third world war appeared imminent. However, the language of the appropriation acts passed by Congress, made it clear that it was the intent of Congress, that the military construction program was to be executed in an orderly, business-like fashion, without the application of expediting funds, or the assumption of unreasonable completion dates, for any item included in the program.

To implement the procedures promulgated by the Secretary of Defense, the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, issued the following policies to be followed by the Corps:

". . . In the interest of economy, the strength of Government forces assigned to military construction projects will be held to the number that can uniformly and profitably be employed on a year-round basis. In the event that only a portion of design work can be accomplished by Government forces, architect-engineers will be employed on projects having a counterpart in the civilian economy." Further, ". . . It is the current policy of the Corps of Engineers to distribute the items of work to acquaint as many new firms as possible with the policies and procedures of engineering design in the event of an all-out emergency. The items of work shall be grouped and spread among as many firms as possible in order that upon completion of the present program all qualified architect-engineer firms in each area will have had some work." These stated policies were rigidly applied during the calendar years 1951, 1952, and 1953.

During this period, the Galveston District alone has entered into contracts

(Continued on Page 8)

Fort Worth Craftsman Honored

Grayson Gill of Dallas, president of TSA, presents a craftsmanship award to J. J. Delwaide, Fort Worth stonecutter and quarryman who was honor guest at the Fort Worth Chapter's annual Craftsmanship Award Banquet. Looking on is Albert S. Golemon of Houston, regional director of the American Institute of Architects who was present for the banquet at the Rivercrest Country Club in Fort Worth.

Build your bathrooms around BRIGGS BEAUTYWARE...

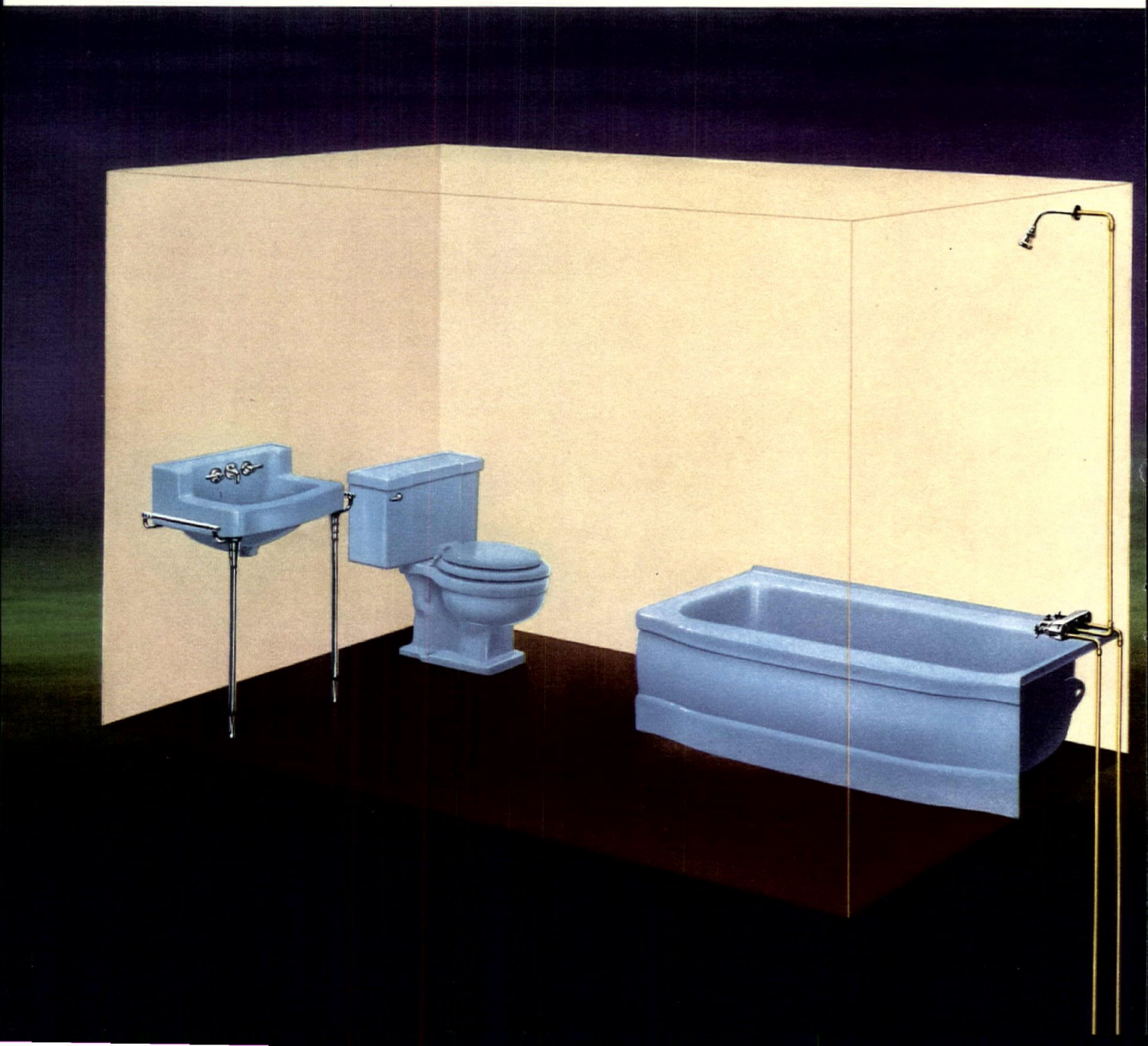
IN COLOR

Coordinated color interiors give homes personality and prestige, according to Howard Ketcham, America's best known color adviser to many home building firms. Today, there's no doubt about the importance of colorful bathrooms and kitchens. They're as much a showplace as any room in the house.

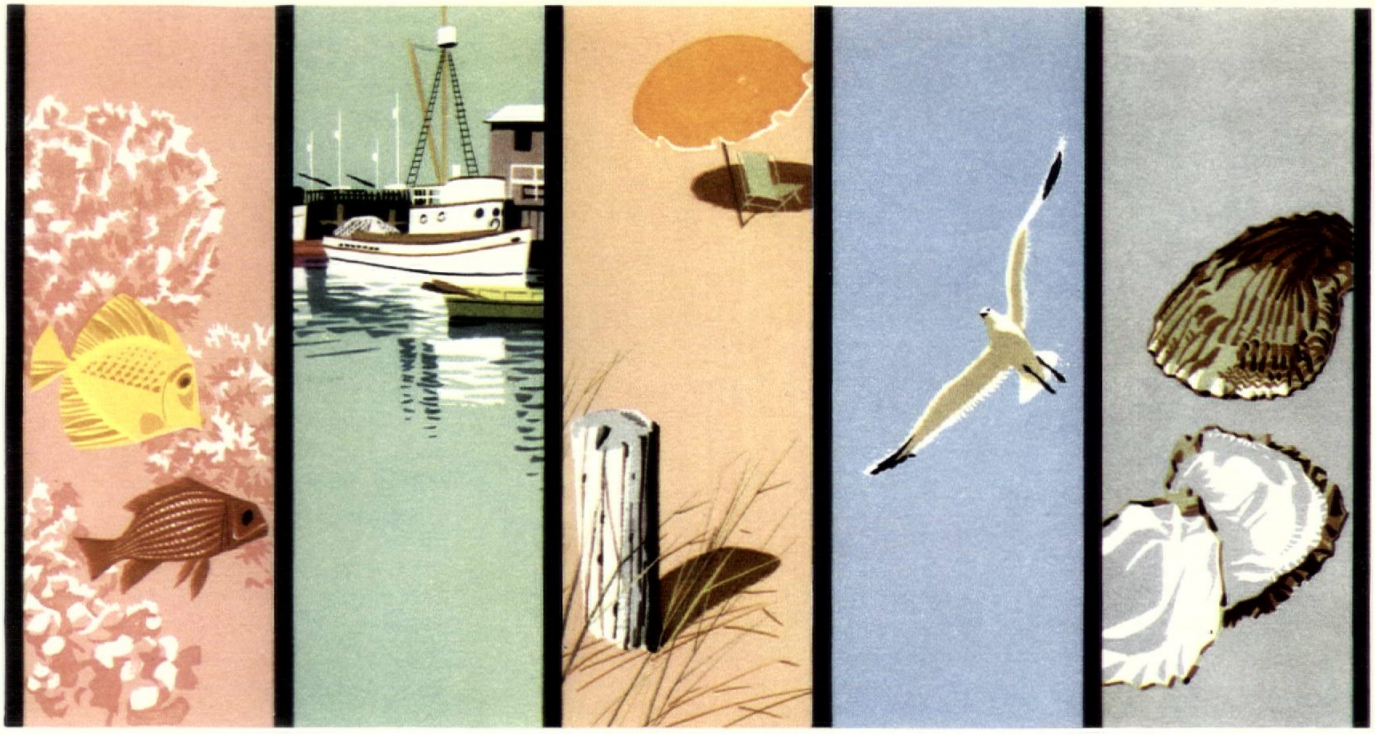
Your prospects are not only color conscious, but fast becoming color educated. That's why the soft pastel tones of Briggs Beautyware are so pleasing, so versatile and so popular.

When you tell your prospects that colorful Briggs Beautyware is fadeproof, easy to keep clean, and blends with any numb of bathroom accessory and decorating changes, you can't he but generate a strong desire for ownership.

We invite you to shop for color fixtures—compare material design and workmanship—compare bathing features, utili features, finishes and beauty of appearance. And compare col match, color shade and color brilliance. You, too, will agree Briggs Beautyware is the outstanding color value and a gre contribution to home sales features.



Coral • Sea Green • Sandstone • Sky Blue • Pearl Gray



Briggs colors complement any type of home – any decorating theme

No matter what the style of a home—from Colonial to Contemporary—you can enhance the beauty of the bathroom and kitchen with any of Beautyware's sparkling sea-tone colors. Here are colors so natural and so pleasing that they complement any decorating theme—even suggest new decorating ideas—add greatly to a home's livability and saleability.

Briggs color processing is exclusive and exacting

Pressure-formed enameling steel—proven superior for many rugged porcelain products—is specially processed at Briggs into glass-hard, glass-bright color fixtures.

At Briggs, too, the finest clays are chemically blended and glazed under most exacting controls to assure matching vitreous china. As a leader in color processing, Briggs has made color fixtures available at new economical costs.

Briggs Beautyware finishes are fadeproof and stainproof

Briggs color finishes are so durable that they defy stains, acids, medicines and cosmetics, *just like glass itself.* In addition, they resist chipping and marring, and are absolutely fadeproof.

These are selling features that your customers will really understand and appreciate.

A Second Bathroom is Beautyware's new standard for American Living

BRIGGS MANUFACTURING CO. • 300 BUHL BUILDING • DETROIT 26, MICHIGAN

New Design Aid For Students

Produced for the nine architectural and architectural engineering schools in the Southwest, this design aid for students features models of three basic wall types with descriptive literature of each design. Shown inspecting the display is J. J. Kelly, (left) Promotion Manager and C. T. Grimm, executive secretary of the Clay Products Association of the Southwest.

San Antonio Architects Win Design Awards In Chapter Competition

Members of the San Antonio Chapter, TSA, were awarded eight citations for outstanding design in connection with the Chapter's competition during Texas Architect's Week. Many of the award-winning designs will be entered in "Texas Architecture — 1955," a statewide competition to be judged in conjunction with the State Fair of Texas in Dallas this fall.

An award jury headed by Professor Harwell H. Harris of the School of Architecture at the University of Texas made the following awards:

Awards Listed

First honors, all classes: Barilett Cocke and O'Neil Ford, for a Trinity University dormitory.

Residential merit award: Cerf Ross & H. Edwin Nicholson, for the Ross home.

Churches merit award: Milton Ryan, for the University of Presbyterian Church.

School merit award: Phelps & Dewees & Simmons, for the San Antonio Junior College group.

Commercial class merit award: Reginald G. Roberts, for a professional center presentation.

Honorable mention awards went to Frank M. Valdez and Joe L. Williams, for a speculative house design; to A. Noonan & Associates, for an Alice Independent School District design; and to Ayres & Ayres for the San Antonio International Airport.

Galveston District . . .

with 86 A-E firms. These contracts covered the preparation of plans, specifications, and design analyses for construction totalling more than 116 million dollars.

The number of personnel in our Engineering Division, assigned to this military construction program, held fairly constant during this period averaging about 86.

During calendar year 1954 and early in 1955, modifications to the expressed policies of the Chief of Engineers were received. The Korean War had been brought to a close. Numerous firms and individuals had gained experience in military construction design, and more and more emphasis was placed on economy, reduced manpower and greater efficiency. Our current regulations governing the operations of the Corps of Engineers now contain instructions as follows: ". . . Emphasis will be placed on selecting firms or individuals . . . experienced in the design of the particular type of project involved, and having the ability to organize sufficient personnel to expedite the work. In all cases where the qualifications of a local firm or individual are determined to be equal to those of a non-local firm or individual for a particular project, preference will be given the local firm or individual. . . . Overloading of any one firm should be avoided. The principle of distributing work among the maximum number of firms should not be applied with such rigidity that the use of specific time intervals or any other systematic rotation plan is required. Each project will be considered on the basis of its individual qualifications. Insofar as practicable, an equitable distribution of available work wil be made among qualified firms. The award of contracts in all cases should be predicated on sound engineering and economic principles and on the basis that the over-all best interest of the Government is being served."

Under these regulations, the trend has been to negotiate the FY 55 and FY 56 work with A-E firms experienced in military construction design to Corps of Engineer requirements. District records reveal that during April 1955, 20 A-E firms were actively engaged in work for the Galveston District. Five of these firms were working with the District for the first time. A systematic rotation plan is not in effect, but we do consider new A-E firms, and try to keep a portion of our work with new A-E's.

You no doubt are interested in how A-E fees are established. Based upon fee experience, the Office, Chief of Engineers has developed a set of curves from which the A-E fee can be determined as a percentage of the estimated construction cost, with some latitude for complexity of design and field work required. Unlike construction contracts, which are almost entirely advertised and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, A-E contracts are all negotiated.

As District Engineer, I have the authority to approve A-E selections, except in cases involving classified projects. However, my authority to award an A-E contract is limited to those in which the fee does not exceed $100,000. Award must be approved by the Division Engineer (in Dallas) on contracts when the fee is over $100,000, but which does not exceed $500,000. Where the fee exceeds $500,000, award of an A-E contract requires the approval of the Chief of Engineers in Washington. Approval of estimated fees contain these same limitations.

Based on past experience and known capabilities, my office selects three firms in an order of preference. After approval of the Government estimate of the fee, we enter into negotia-

(Continued on Page 11)

SWINGING DOORS • SLIDING PANELS • CASEMENT WINDOWS • PROJECTED WINDOWS

. . . as illustrated in Sweet's

Aluminum

ALUMAR

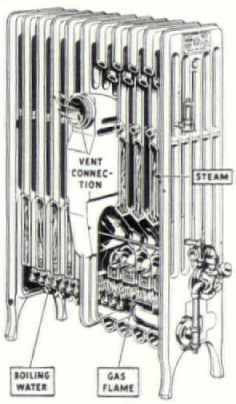
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Products

R. H. FOLMAR COMPANY MANUFACTURERS AUSTIN, TEXAS

---

modern Texas schools choose CLOW Gasteam radiators for heating



because: They are time-proved for safety, economy, comfort and durability. James B. Clow & Sons has been manufacturing Gasteam Radiators for 55 years and many Texas schools are still heated by Gasteam Radiators after 25 to 30 years of use. Where can you find a heating plant with a service record like that?

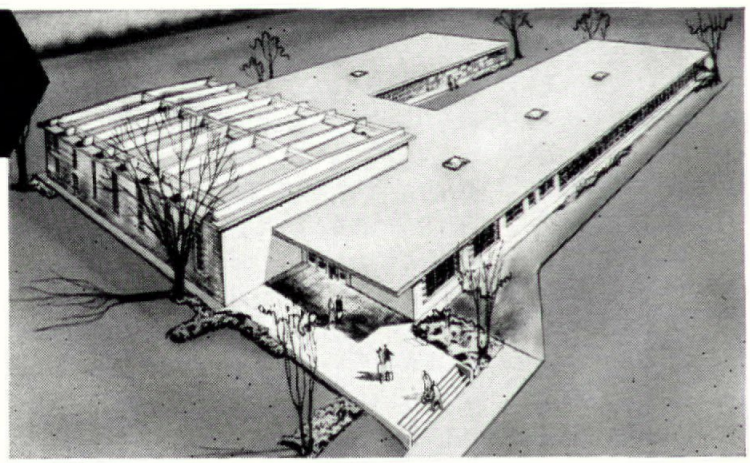
Don't take our word for it—just ask the schools that use them. Let us send you a list of Texas schools that use Clow Gasteam Radiators for heating!

Each Clow Gasteam Radiator is an independent heating plant, generating its own steam heat with gas.

Approved by the American Gas Association for use with City, Butane or Propane gas. Listed by the Underwriters' Laboratories.

TEXAS DISTRIBUTORS
JAMES B. CLOW & SONS:
Dallas 6—5637 Daniels Avenue
Tel. EMerson 6-2896
Houston 6—2611 Colquitt Avenue
(off Kirby Dr.)
Tel. Keystone 8148
THE GAS-STEAM HEATING CO.
San Antonio 5—102 Heiman St.
Tel. CApitol 3-6123

Write or 'phone **NOW** for further information and free estimates



The New Duncanville High School—Duncanville, Texas.
Superintendent of Schools: J. Herman Reed.
Architect: Royall M. Strode, Dallas. Structural Engineer: William L. Cobb, Dallas.
General Contractor: Lee Elliott, Associates, Dallas.

This new 20-classroom high school was built by the unique method of pouring the roof on the ground and raising it up to the proper height with synchronized hydraulic jacks and fastening it to the supporting structure. Roof trusses for the front, gymnasium section, are above instead of below the roof, providing an unobstructed surface below.

Yes, many of the newest, most modern Texas schools are being heated by Clow Gasteam Radiators. That's because they served so many Texas communities so well in their old buildings. You, too, can benefit from the economy in installed cost and fuel cost of a Clow Gasteam Radiator heating system for schools. Why not drop into one of our display rooms for a demonstration? See addresses at left.

JAMES B. CLOW and SONS 201-299 N. Talman Avenue • Chicago 80, Illinois

Impertinent Comments On Japanese Life And Architecture

By TOM W. SHEFELMAN

Editor's Note: Mr. Shefelman is a young Texas architect who has been traveling and studying in Japan with his wife Janice.

What is Japanese architecture? We are beginning to wonder why we cannot yet answer such a question after already seeing so many shrines, temples and houses. They all looked alike at first glance, as did Japanese faces. But now, as do Japanese faces, each structure, each garden begins to assume an individuality of its own.

To define or categorize what is being designed and built today is even more difficult. As we try to understand modern Japan through the eyes of a contemporary Western architect we are completely baffled.

Change Not Complete

We see the Japanese leaving his matted house for the business world feeling that his architecture, like his clothes, must change to "Western Style." In neither case is the change always as complete as he thinks it is. No matter how complete it is, nor with how much expense, the new "duds" usually do not fit too well.

In so many departments of Japanese life there is that unquestioning adoption, in part or in full, of the new or the Western, even as in other departments there remains the docile acceptance of things as they always were. To take an *idea* from the West and then to go on from there is a mental process which seems foreign to Japanese thinking. To make use of the cultural and spiritual recourses of his own ancient civilization when confronted with the outward manifestations of Western civilization appears to be too difficult a task for him.

"Co-existence" Is Description

The idea of bringing the new and the old, the Western and the Eastern into harmony with one another we rarely see in practice. "Co-existence" is the word which describes today's situation best.

Walter Gropius is rumored to have displayed signs of disappointment that so much of his school of thought has been adopted without questioning, and so often superficially applied, by some of the well known Japanese architects. We ourselves were disappointed in some of the large commercial buildings now mushrooming in Tokyo. So many are such great, cold hulks of concrete, glass and tile. So many seem to lack the sense of visual order, the restraint and refinement which the Japanese on a smaller scale could handle so well.

"Co-Existence" In Modern Japan

This Japanese couple, the wife in traditional costume with her child, the husband in Western dress complete with briefcase, are symbolic of some manifestations of Nipponese architecture today, Tom W. Shefelman reports.

Difficulty Taking Root

And on the ground nature gives way to an empty sea of concrete pavement and terrazzo. But the source of inspiration, or better yet, imitation, is obvious — The Bauhaus, Le Corbusier. We cannot help but think of a great tree that has been transplanted into strange soil and is having much difficulty taking root.

Gropius is said to have complained of lack of scale, human scale in this "new architecture." He has suggested that the Japanese turn to their own traditional architecture more often for inspiration. But some of them answer that this is impossible in the design of the big concrete structure.

Traditional Architecture of Wood

The problem is different. Traditional architecture is of wood. It is for sitting on the floor. It is impractical. But certainly there must be a difference between the inconveniences of the traditional, and the spirit or frame or mind which made creation of the poetry in it possible. Frank Lloyd Wright grasped much of this poetry and recreated it in concrete and masonry with modern plumbing, heating, and electricity to boot.

Is this impasse in architecture symbolic of the entire Japanese culture which Western ideas are now invading? We were told the other day about a young girl from a family of Noh actors. Noh drama is considered by many the apex of Orenital art. In it the audience experiences the total elimination of the non-essential, the perfection of every sound and movement, the perfect exercise for the keenest imagination.

Symbolic of Entire Culture?

This young girl had already mastered such perfection through the training of her family, in which the art has passed for generations as a family heritage. A very capable English teacher in a private school attempted to use her talent in a Shakespearean play. The attempt ended in failure. The greatest of Western drama left too much to the initiative. It followed no rigid pattern such as the young girl had learned mechanically, yet so gracefully, to follow in Noh.

This episode may appear to be an extreme example. Nevertheless, it provides for us an excellent illustration of the problem created in Japan by the flood of Western ideas and the newfound freedom to respond to them. The field of architecture provides only one of the many outward manifestations of this problem. And this generation cannot hope to predict the final outcome.

Galveston District . . .

tions with the number one A-E selected. If a fee can be agreed upon, a contract is entered into upon receipt of required authority to award. If agreement cannot be reached with regard to fee, negotiations are then broken-off and our second choice is called in for negotiation, and if necessary, the third. Thus far, we have never had to go beyond the second choice.

With few exceptions, A-E firms have "shouldered the load" so to speak, with Galveston District personnel. They have taken an active interest in the problems and work of the District, "burning the midnight oil" to incorporate changes in design and yet meet deadlines.

A-E's Contribution to Nation

As an officer in the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, and in my capacity as District Engineer of the Galveston District, I am in a position to appreciate the tremendous services the architect-engineers of America have rendered to our Nation — to its economic strength, to its defenses against aggression, and to the well-being of its people.

Today, the United States relies upon its architect-engineer and construction industry as never before. Our expanding economy requires constantly more, better, faster, bigger and more varied construction. And today, during this era of uncertainty, adequate design and construction are two of the main roots of our efforts for defense.

Shortage of Engineers

In this twilight era of half-peace and half-war, we must be ready to mobilize instantly for the hasty, unmeasured needs of our military construction on one or a hundred fronts, at home or abroad. You may expect to be called on the future, as in the past, to perform tasks that will test the utmost limits of your skills, resources, and know-how. We of the military establishment, will continue to bring unprecedented design and construction problems to you for technical advice in both planning and building. We will continue to draw upon you for skilled and experienced personnel, both as consultants and on actual jobs.

Now it has become an axiom that modern war is an engineering war. Military preparedness and military operations alike, call for the very highest skills in engineering planning and construction. On the Army's side, they call for an alert, knowledgeable, large scale organization in existence at all times. On the side of private enterprise, it calls for skill and know-how unmatched by planners and builders of any other nation. This we find among America's architect-engineers and contractors.

Our lead in construction power is clear-cut. In other facets of technology we are not as secure. Our engineering personnel problems, in particular, are becoming more serious each year. We are told that Russia has been turning out almost twice as many technologists and engineers a year as are being graduated from America's engineering schools. In fact, the National Science Foundation recently told the Congress that in 1955, Russia will turn out three times as many young scientists and engineers as the United States. Meanwhile, we Americans are not only falling behind the Russians, but behind our own needs. The Nation is not producing enough engineering graduates today to fill the ranks of our public and private engineering organizations, nor enough engineering and science teachers, particularly at high-school level, to assure our supply of engineers for the future. This is something for all of us who are interested in design or construction to give much serious thought. Engineer education should be aided wherever possible.

Our strength is the strength of teamwork. The jobs that we have been called upon to execute together have been done, are being done, and I am happy to say, will continue to be done honestly and according to the rules which provide for fair and just treatment to all.

Sparkling White Marble

and 20 Other Colors

for Roofing & Terrazzo

4 Shades of Green Now So Popular

We have an inventory of 100,000 bags; can fill orders for one or more colors immediately.

DEZENDORF MARBLE COMPANY

2800 E. 17th ST. PHONE 2-3440 AUSTIN, TEXAS

LCN

DOOR CLOSER

REPRESENTATIVES

For information on LCN Closers concealed over the door, in the door, or in the floor, or exposed, call or write

for Eastern and Central Texas:

JOHN J. HUGHES

3106 Drexel Drive, Dallas 5, Texas

Telephone LAkeside 5070

for Amarillo, Plainview, Lubbock, Lamesa, Midland and West:

L. E. CLEAVINGER

616 Mercantile Building, Denver 2, Colorado

Telephone KEystone 4-7313

When you desire
SERVICE
in the form of
FURNITURE INFORMATION
or collaboration in
INTERIOR LAYOUTS
along with
GRAPHIC PRESENTATION
you-or your
CLIENT
are welcome to our
SHOWROOM and
DESIGN DEPARTMENT
any time, with
NO OBLIGATION
Plan to visit
FINGER CONTRACT
3131 Calhoun, Houston-AT 3441

Architects Participate In Community Planning Session At University of Texas

Karl Kamrath, TSA-AIA of Houston, chairman of the Texas State Planning Commission, and Herbert M. Tatum of Dallas, former president of TSA and chairman of the American Institute of Architects regional committee on urban design nda housing, were among those attending a recent conference on community planning at the University of Texas.

The conference was under the chairmanship of Hugo Leipziger-Pearce, TSA-AIA, professor of architecture and planning at the University.

Morning and luncheon sessions brought together 34 representatives from the University of Texas, various state agencies, and TSA.

Harold V. Miller, executive director of the Tennessee State Planning Commission, served as consultant and luncheon speaker. The conference established a frame of reference by which the University of Texas professional research resources could be utilized for graduate education and services in city and regional planning to benefit Texas' urban growth.

Houston Architects Active In Campaign To Restore Historic Home

Five Houston TSA members, headed by Harvin C. Moore, chairman of the Houston Chapter's committee for the preservation of historic buildings, are active in efforts of the Harris County Heritage & Conservation Society to restore the historic Noble House in the bayou city.

The 110-year-old structure, only remaining Houston home which dates from the days of the Texas Republic, has been threatened with destruction for years, particularly since a fire this spring which left it only partially intact.

A group including Birdsall P. Briscoe, TSA-FAIA; Ralph Buffington, Albert Howze and J. R. Tabor, all TSA; and Mr. Moore are preparing restoration plans as a civic service. Research is now proceeding rapidly so that restoration of the house will be as authentic as possible. Among the problems involved, however, are locating early photographs of the house or technical data regarding its original condition, and such materials as oversized brick. The original brick came from a yard operated by slaves in early Houston.

Order **CLAY TILE** for beauty that lasts

ARCHITECTS specify genuine clay tile for commercial and residential floors and walls where ruggedness or beauty is important.

CONTRACTORS prefer dry-press clay tile because its precision assures exact setting—quicker, easier installation.

CLIENTS approve of beautiful clay tile walls and floors because —whatever the installation—they are proven time and money savers.

Only dry-press clay tile meets so many requirements of architect, contractor, and client. Clay tile lasts, no matter how heavy the wear. Its natural beauty blends in with every type of design.

Moreover, you cut time and cost in installation when you use dry-press clay tile. The exact setting made possible by this precision-formed tile speeds up every job—saves you as much as 10% to 15% on each installation.

Clients like the way clay tiling keeps right on saving money. Acid-resistant, fireproof, rot-proof and vermin-proof, it survives the roughest use, yet requires no maintenance.

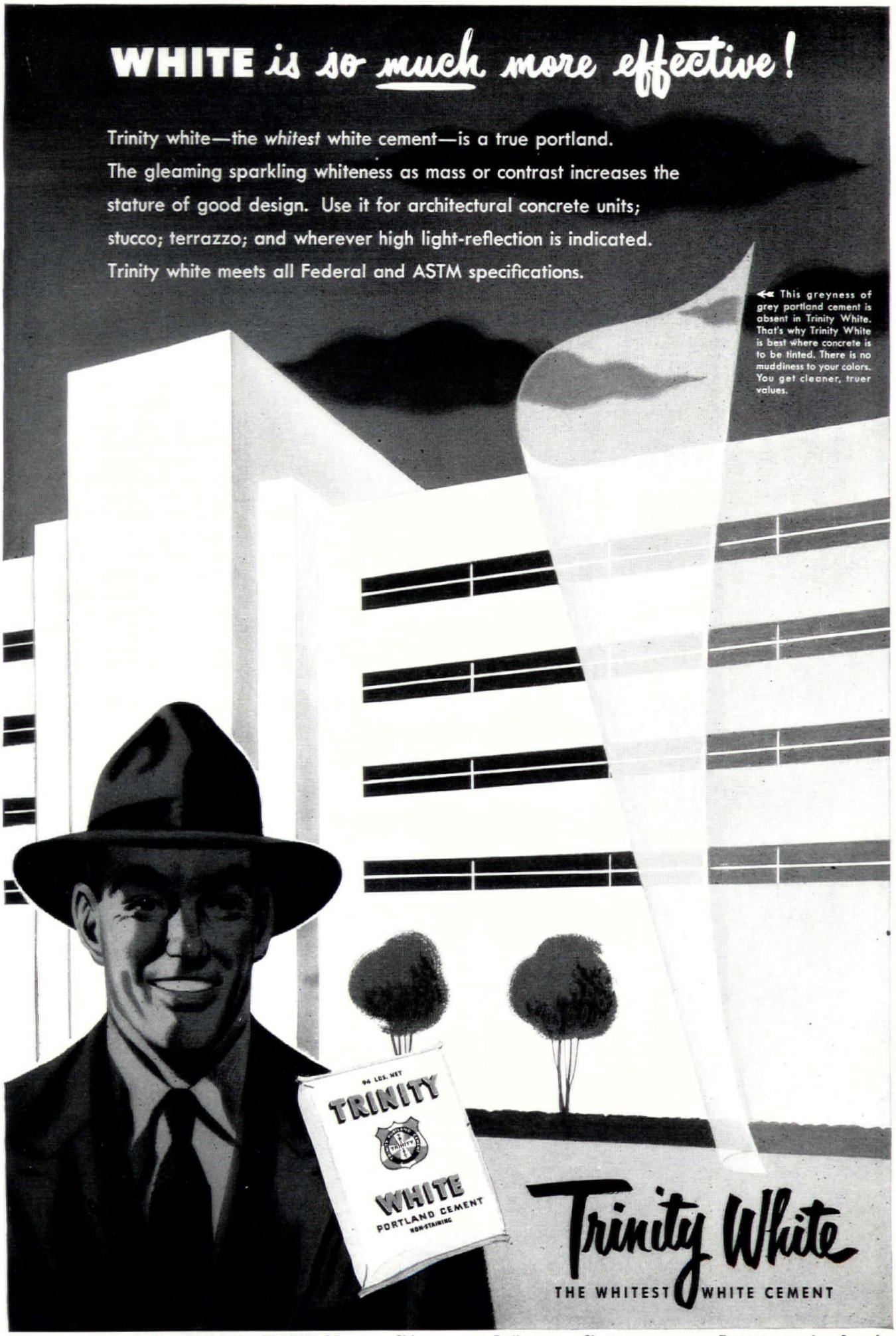
Texeramics Flint Quarry Tiles, manufactured by the dry-press method, surpass government specifications. Available in standard sizes (3⅞" x 8" x ½" and 6" x 6" x ½") with a complete line of trim. Three natural colors: Red Chief (red), Desert Sand (buff) and Fire Flash. Write for samples and information.

TEXERAMICS INC.
P. O. BOX 274 PHONE 1828
MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

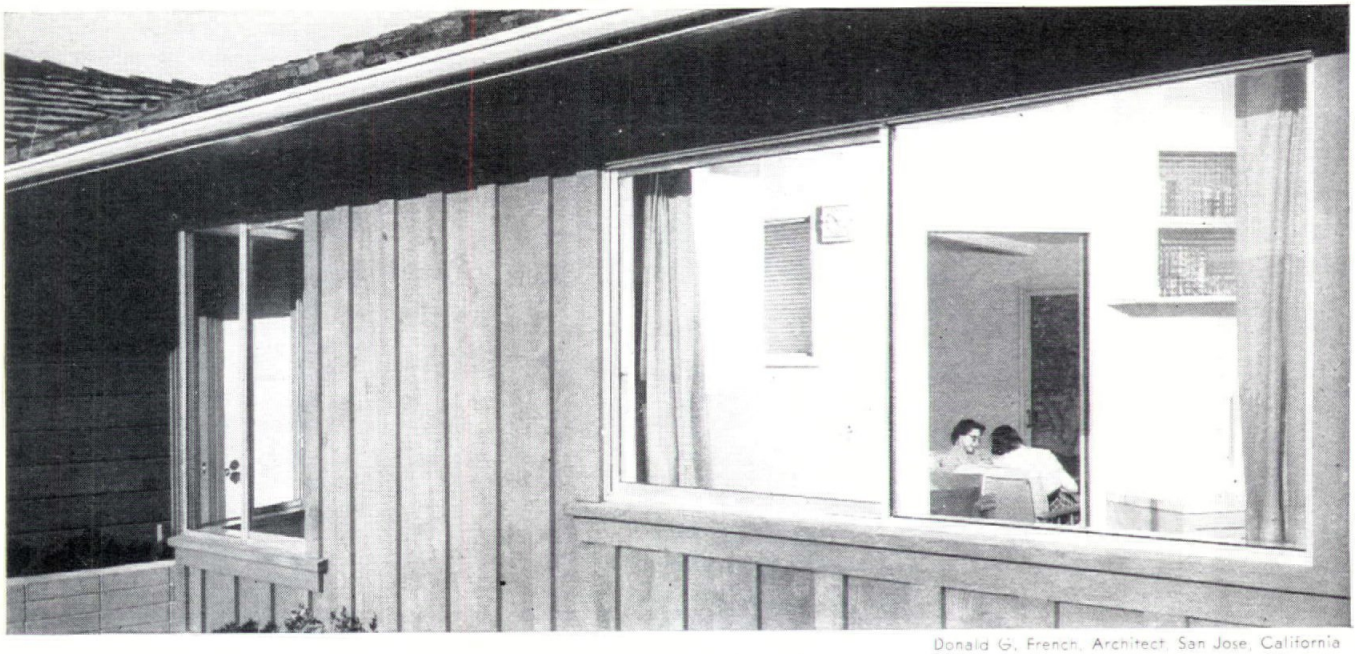
PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

SOUTHERN INSPECTION SERVICE
ENGINEERS INSPECTION & TESTS
P. O. Box 8633
3206 Houston Ave.
P D. Barnard Mgr.
VA-6621
Houston, Texas

H. G. ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES
"QUANTITY SURVEYS"
PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES
803 THOMAS BLDG. P.O. BOX 9814
RANDOLPH 3711 DALLAS, TEXAS



A Product of GENERAL PORTLAND CEMENT CO. • Chicago • Dallas • Chattanooga • Tampa • Los Angeles



Donald G. French, Architect, San Jose, California

Any way you look at it...
They're your best buy in windows!

Arislide aluminum sliding windows

- Reduced installation cost: nail-in anchor fin eliminates surrounds or frames.
- Nylon bottom rollers for smooth, quiet operation.
- Complete mohair weatherstripping.
- Sliding unit easily removed from inside.
- May be purchased knocked-down or fully assembled.

Quality-built by the makers of Arislide Steel Sliding Doors

Since 1912 ARISTON Metal Products

Write for catalogues

Mail to: N. K. Juvet, Mgr. Arislide Windows & Doors Division, Michel & Pfeffer Iron Works, Inc.
Address: 212 Shaw Road, South San Francisco, California.
Please send Arislide Aluminum Sliding Windows Catalogue and Arislide Steel Sliding Doors Catalogue.

Your Name.....

Firm.....

Address.....

City and State.....

Dept. TA

MICHEL & PFEFFER IRON WORKS, INC. • 212 SHAW ROAD • SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA